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WORLD RESPONSIBILITY OF U.S.A. IN MUTUAL AID IS EMPHASIZED BY PRESIDENT AND CHURCHES

The sense of responsibility of the United States for world leadership for peace with justice and freedom, as seen in part in foreign aid, is threatened by current developments in Washington. What seems to be a battle of the budget on deeper observation proves in its possible effects in international relations to be considerably more. It is a struggle for power, in part, between the two parties, between factions within the Executive. Such loyalties at the moment seem to be over-riding the sense of world responsibility which should be a paramount concern of all.

While actual economic factors are of some significance in the current Congressional budget actions, other factors, such as the political, also seem to be influential. For example, while Congress makes head-lines with budget slashes, it has added new expenditures of over one-half billion dollars ($700 million); also, it is facing its third special appropriation bill for the current budget to make up for slashes it made too deeply into the budget proposed last year. Again, as documented in the Wall Street Journal for May 15, many business forces such as those that joined in two reported major organized campaigns to cut the budget do not wish any cut in the budget where their special interests are involved. Granted that every possible economy and efficiency in government should be insisted upon, the present cut-the-budget drive has obscured some of the real factors.

WHAT IS AT STAKE IN THE BUDGET AND IN FOREIGN AID?

The budget is actually a major means by which the President and other leaders of our nation can carry out their program. If the budget is seriously cut, so is their program. This is particularly true in the matter of "foreign aid" -- which the President prefers to call "mutual aid." This totals only about 5% of the proposed budget, ($3.8 billion, out of $72 billion). About 4% of the budget ($2.8 billion) is for military aid; less than 1% of the budget ($650 million) is for economic development and technical assistance; another sum, half of that amount, is for emergencies and various forms of international cooperation, and such items as the UN Children's Fund. These sums relatively small to the rest of the budget are of great importance in U.S. international relations. The economic and technical assistance sums are of especial significance in the total shape of U.S. foreign policy. They determine to a considerable degree whether the U.S. presents itself to the rest of the world primarily in terms of military might, or in part also in constructive concerns for others. (To page 2.)

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PRESIDENT EISENHOWER APPEALS TO THE PEOPLE TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR MUTUAL AID

Repeatedly in recent months the President has emphasized the urgency of mutual aid. In his Second Inaugural Address, he declared that our duty and our destiny lie in responsible relationships to the rest of the world, including the sharing of our skills and our substance. In face of organized campaigns to cut the budget, the President has steadfastly repeated in news conferences and speeches that substantial foreign aid programs are an indispensable part of our international responsibilities. Most recently, on May 14 and 21, the President made nation-wide appeals by radio and television for the people to support his budget and the mutual aid program. With the second appeal, the tide began to turn, and whereas some Congressional mail had been running considerably for cutting the budget including foreign aid, the White House indicated a response of 9-to-1 supporting the President's appeal for the mutual aid program.

NEW APPROACH TO MUTUAL AID PROPOSED BY PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE

Before a Senate Special Committee on Foreign Aid, Secretary Dulles on April 8, outlined a new approach for the mutual security program including: Clarifying of purposes; separating the economic from military aspects; establishing a loan fund for economic development ($500 million next year and $750 million for each two following years;) continuing technical cooperation at present level; continuing an emergency aid fund. The response among key leaders of both Senate and House was strongly favorable. So too, when the program for next year was sent to Congress by the President on May 21 and testified to by the Secretary on May 22 before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Some Senators are reported as having wondered, privately, as to whether the expanding American economy should not, in fact, be providing expanding economic aid. The new approach by the Administration is considered by friends of mutual aid, both in Congress and among the citizenry, as taking steps toward improved, expanded programs which will gain wider support at home and be more effective overseas.

CHURCHES ACROSS THE LAND ARE MAKING MAJOR EFFORT FOR CONSTRUCTIVE FOREIGN AID

Beginning in January, foreseeing the crisis for mutual aid this year, based on policies developed during the past 15 years for constructive aid, and on their experience of more than 150 years in missionary and world service programs, the church of the NCCUSA have been making a major effort for the support of improved, expanded programs of economic development aid and technical cooperation. This has included conferences with the President and the Secretary of State on April 3, others in the Administration and key leaders of Congress, by President Eugene Carson Blake and other officers of the National Council and its 30 constituent communions. Dr. Blake testified on the religious and moral bases for foreign aid before the Special Senate Committee April 12, and his testimony has been ordered by tens of thousands in a folder titled, "Why Christians are Concerned for Foreign Aid." Many denominations have alerted their people across the land, as United Church Women, the United Christian Youth Movement, and United Student Christian Council. All councils of churches have been alerted with three notices; action has been reported from states such as California, Rhode Island, Texas, Kansas, Michigan, Indiana. To cite one denominational example, 1,800,000 members of Methodist Woman's Society of Christian Service were asked to write their Senators and Representatives for favorable action on foreign aid.

Currently, religious leaders are testifying for 3 days before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on foreign aid (report in June Newsletter). The Congressmen keep repeating this point to the witnesses: Church people across the land must write their concerns in letters and wires to their representatives in the House and Senate -- now!

PAMPHLET: "Why Christians are Concerned For Foreign Aid"; contains facts about economic and technical aid and the U.S. gross national product, testimony by President Blake, NCC, to the Senate Special Committee on Foreign Aid, and ideas for action. $2.00/100, Office of Publication and Distribution, National Council of Churches, 120 E. 23rd St., N.Y. 10.

REVIEW OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADE BY ITS PRESIDENT

Among many appraisals of the Eleventh General Assembly of the United Nations, is the one made by the man who presided over the longest and in many ways most agonizing session of this body, which adjourned temporarily on March 8. Prince Wan Waithayakon of Thailand, President, gave a review of the session, in which he said in part: "The agenda of the eleventh session comprises a comprehensive program of normal activities for the promotion of peace, freedom, justice and economic and social well-being for mankind, as well as the two special items of Hungary and the Middle East...." He also said:

"As regards the measure of its success, I think we can report to the peoples of the United Nations in whose name the Charter is concluded that the General Assembly has shown itself to be a resourceful and conciliatory instrument of peace, dedicated to the moral principles which it is determined to uphold with the support of Member States and of world public opinion....

"There have been a number of unanimous resolutions. We may take as an example the resolution on disarmament, recommending that the Disarmament Commission and its sub-Committee give prompt attention to the various proposals submitted. This is a clear indication of the earnest desire of the General Assembly to see a positive step forward taken in this matter in the interest of peace...."

On Algeria and Cyprus: "It is remarkable that they have been discussed during the present session and that, after discussion, general agreement has been reached for achieving peaceful, democratic and just solutions in conformity with the Charter.

"Freedom in Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories is also welcomed. Thus the General Assembly expresses its approval of the union of Togoland under British administration with the independent Gold Coast of Ghana, now our eighty-first Member State, and looks to further progress towards the freedom of Togoland under French administration....

"The promotion of economic and social welfare, too, is a principal task of the United Nations, and I am glad to say that, in addition to technical assistance and investment facilities, progress is being made towards the establishment of SUNFED for the development of underdeveloped countries. I am glad also that consideration of the Draft Covenants on Human Rights is being activated and that the Convention on the Nationality of Married Women is already open for signature. The establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency augurs well for the peaceful uses of atomic energy which will in time promote better standards of life in peace and will promote peace itself.

"Another asset for peace is the diplomatic role of the Secretary-General: it is of the utmost importance when we pass from the normal and unspectacular work of the General Assembly to consideration of the special item on the Middle East....

"Having regard to these circumstances, the General Assembly has acted promptly. Powers great and small have taken the initiative and come forward with constructive proposals, and thus the United Nations Emergency Force came into being. The General Assembly rapidly passed resolutions couched in general terms, and the Secretary-General has implemented them by delicate and arduous negotiations, supported therein by the force of world opinion. The efficacy of Assembly action depends on its moral force which in turn depends on the understanding by world opinion of the moral principle underlying each Assembly recommendation. This may take time and may involve progressive steps being taken before success is secured.

"In the case of the Middle East, the General Assembly has stopped a war and is building up a foundation of peace based on the principles of the Charter and not on expediency. This is no mean achievement, and the General Assembly can now adjourn with a feeling of satisfaction as the reward of its determined and laborious efforts...."

DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE IN LONDON CONFERENCE: NEW ATMOSPHERE AND PROPOSALS

After ten years of frustrating and seemingly unavailing disarmament negotiations among major armed powers, there are expressions of "cautious hope" in the current conference which began March 18, in London. There the United Nations Subcommittee on Disarmament (Canada, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, and the United States) has completed the first run-through of its agenda including: Nuclear test explosions; reductions in conventional armaments, armed forces and military expenditures; nuclear armament reduction, control and elimination; an international control and inspection system; missiles and rockets; zones of armament limitation; and others.

A number of new proposals have been made by various powers. The U.S.A. proposed a two-stage, controlled, 25% cut in conventional arms. But before figures could be negotiated, the U.K. announced a unilateral five-year plan of drastic reductions of arms and forces. On April 30, the Soviet representative presented to the UN Subcommittee a memorandum. This included for the first time since Geneva, 1955, their acceptance of the idea of aerial inspection areas, including Russia; it also proposed inclusion of much of Europe, eastern Siberia, Alaska, and the U.S.A west of the Mississippi River. It also included proposals for: A two-stage reduction of armed forces. Reduction of budgets for conventional arms not by 10%, as suggested by the U.S.A., but by 15%. Establishing disarmament control posts in Europe, the western part of the U.S.S.R. and the eastern U.S.A. Reductions by a third in forces in Germany of the U.S.S.R., the U.S.A., U.K. and France. Reduction of NATO and Warsaw Treaty Forces. A ban on nuclear weapons and reductions of stockpiles of these. Some observers pointed out that even as the Soviets spoke with more reasonableness than usual, they continued to test nuclear weapons in Siberia. Others noted these proposals did not include earlier Soviet demands such as liquidation of foreign bases and establishing a demilitarized zone in Germany. A general impression: These are the most serious proposals yet put forward by the Russians in a decade of meetings.

New responsibility was brought on the U.S.A. to reply to the U.S.S.R. proposals, in cooperation with allies. The head of the U.S. delegation, Harold E. Stassen, returned to Washington a second time in mid-May for further clarification of U.S. positions.

At this time, there appeared a direct clash of views within the government: One favoring hard efforts at honorable negotiation for inspected and controlled agreements; the other discouraging any efforts, seeming to misunderstand the negotiations as being based on trust rather than on attempts to find mutually advantageous plans.

The President on this issue, at his news conference May 22, said of negotiations: "I think our first concern should be making certain we are not ourselves being recalcitrant, we are not being picayunish about this thing. We ought to have an open mind.... Now, on the other hand... we have to be especially careful (with)... a Government which has a history of breaking treaties." Thus the President expressed his deep personal conviction on working toward peace by reliable reduction and regulation of armaments -- which some commentators suggest was one of the basic issues which caused him to serve a second term as President. He went on to say: "There has got to be progress in some kind of disarmament.... The more any intelligent man things about the possibilities of war today, the more he should understand you have got to work on this business of disarmament."

The issue was considered by the National Security Council, the State Department, Senate leaders and advisers to the White House. The President's view prevailed. Mr. Stassen has gone back to London, reportedly with authorization for policies which may be used in negotiation with the hope of possibly some first steps being taken toward reduction and regulation of arms.

ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS BEING CONSIDERED BY CONGRESS

Several issues of particular significance in international relations, in addition to foreign aid, are before Congress in its present session. These items are at various states of consideration as indicated below so they call for different types of action on the part of Christians and church bodies concerned in these issues.

International Atomic Energy Agency Statute (Executive I, 85th Congress, 1st Session) is, at this writing, under consideration by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, following hearings held May 16-17, 20. Church groups were among the non-governmental organizations which testified or inserted statements in the record. The Honorable Ernest A. Gross as Chairman of the Department of International Affairs of the National Council of Churches wrote a communication to the Chairman for the Committee's record, urging ratification of the Statute as being in the interest of the United States and world peace. Mrs. Theodore O. Wedel, Chairman of United Church Women also sent a statement for the record, including their April 30 resolutions.

President Eisenhower in his letter of transmittal of the treaty to the Senate for action wrote: "It is the product of almost three years of negotiations, beginning with my address to the United Nations on December 8, 1953.... There I expressed the profound hope of the American people, a hope shared by people throughout the world, that means could be found to harness the atom to the labors of peace." In his communication, Secretary Dulles wrote: "It is earnestly hoped that the Senate will give prompt consideration to the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency and that the Congress will enact without delay the proposed Participation Act."

It is expected this will be before the Senate shortly for vote. The outlook for passage improved during the hearings and now seems quite favorable.

Hearings on Radioactive Fall-out and Its Effects on Man began on Tuesday, May 28 before a special Joint Congressional Atomic Energy subcommittee under the chairmanship of Representative Chet Holifield (D. Cal.) Two to three weeks of hearings are planned with testimony by governmental and scientific experts, to discover what is known and unknown about how much radiation from weapons tests, natural cosmic rays, medical X-rays and other sources mankind can tolerate without major damage to present and future generations. Ideas in first sessions include these: There is no such thing as a "clean" nuclear bomb, only differing "degrees of dirtiness." The effect of a full-scale hydrogen bomb attack of two hours on the U.S. would possibly leave 82 million people dead and many millions of nonfatal casualties. Government witnesses have posed the question as to the relative values of the undesirability of radioactive fallout and radiation as against the gains either for military purposes in testing of weapons or for the general good in peaceful uses of atomic energy. Scientific witnesses may spell out in some detail what present and possible foreseeable levels of radiation and radioactive fall-out may mean for human health and heredity. Related issues are questions of government policy, of weapons development, testing, and possible international agreements. Being recognized as of increasing importance are problems of peace-time uses of nuclear energy; some testimony will relate to such matters.

Immigration and Refugee Legislation, at this writing, is at a stand-still. Interest shown at the time of Hungarian refugee immigration has died down. Although over 20 different bills dealing with immigration have been introduced, no hearings have yet been held, or even scheduled. Three major types of bills are: The Walter Bill (HR 4008) which would make relatively minor changes in the McCarran-Walter Act; the Watkins-Keating Bill (HR 4205 and S 1006) embodying President Eisenhower's proposals for important amendments to the McCarran-Walter Act, including provision for refugee emergencies; the Celler Bill (HR 3364) which would largely supersede the McCarran-Walter Act by major changes in policy on immigration. All such bills were referred to the House and Senate Immigration subcommittees of their Judiciary Committees, where they now lie.

Voluntary agencies have been working actively, even if without results to date. On April 3, 39 agency members of the American Immigration Conference, including Church World Service of the National Council of Churches, in a statement commended the President on his Message of January 31, 1957 calling for "prompt action" on certain recommendations for improving immigration policy and continuing a positive program to admit refugees. Another statement by the officers of A.I.C. on May 24 expressed deep concern that no immigration has been enacted, and that no hearings have been held which would enable agencies to testify for immigration and refugee legislation which would strengthen the foreign policy of the U.S. and extend the humanitarian leadership of this country.

Urging public hearings on pending immigration at an early date, they listed some priorities: 1. Clarifying the status of Hungarian parolees in the U.S. and those awaiting admission from Austria, Yugoslavia and countries of second asylum. 2. Provisions to reunite families. 3. Regularizing the status of Displaced Persons in the U.S. who feared repatriation and therefore misrepresented their national origins. 4.Eliminating "mortgaged quotas." 5. Continuing admission of a fair share of those looking for resettlement opportunities in the U.S. including (a) Displaced Persons; (b) present and future refugees for persecution in Europe, North Africa, the Middle and Far East; (c) orphans eligible for adoption in the U.S. 6. Some plan for annual redistribution of unused quotas to countries needing additional visas.

Chances are slight for any favorable action this session of Congress and practically nil unless there is a strong expression of public concern and support.

OTC -- U.S. Membership in an Organization for Trade Cooperation is again proposed in bills introduced in the House of Representatives (HR 6630 and 6631). These would authorize the President to accept membership in OTC for the U.S. and would provide for appropriations for funds for it. President Eisenhower in previous sessions of Congress has repeatedly requested this action for the U.S. to help set up machinery for more efficient working of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in which the U.S. has cooperated since 1948. The U.S. with 20% of the aggregate foreign trade of all nations in GATT has power to keep OTC from coming into being, as it has to be approved by members representing 85% of that trade. In 1956 this proposal was approved by the House Ways and Means Committee, but died in Congress. In renewing his request for an improved version of it this year, President Eisenhower in a letter to Congress April 3, 1957 said, "The advantages to the United States of membership in the Organization for Trade Cooperation are compelling."

Concurrent Resolutions for the Creation of a Permanent United Nations Force similar in character to the UN Emergency Force as a permanent agency of the United Nations have been introduced in Congress, May 2, HCR 165 by Rep. A.S.J. Carnahan (D. Mo.) and HCR 166 by Rep. Peter Frelinghuysen (R. N.J.), and May 8, SCR 29, by Senators Ralph Flanders (R.Vt.) and John J. Sparkman (D. Ala.). It cites the UNEF as having "made a significant contribution toward stability in the Middle East," and as being "a step toward the maintenance of international peace and security;" that "the need for a force of this character appears likely to continue;" that a UN force on a permanent basis "could be an important instrument for the maintenance of international peace and security." Therefore, it calls for a concurrent resolution that "(a) a force similar in character to the United Nations Emergency Force should be made a permanent agency of the United Nations, that it should be specially trained, armed, and equipped for such duties as observation and patrol; (b) No individuals should be accepted for membership in this force who are nationals of the permanent members of the Security Council or of states not members of the United Nations; (c) Appropriations for maintenance of the force should be provided by the United Nations out of its regular budget."

Where do you stand on these issues? Do your representatives in government know -- in the Administration and in the House and Senate? Basic decisions related to the responsibile role of the U.S. in international relations are being made in these weeks. Christian convictions can be made to count in action by individuals and church groups.

CHURCH WOMEN TAKE ACTIONS IN WORLD RELATIONS; HOLD INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DINNER

In the annual meeting of the Board of Managers of United Church Women in Chicago, April 29-30, resolutions were adopted urging the nation's church women to: 1 - Help speed new legislation to aid refugees; 2 - Support constructive programs of foreign economic aid; 3 - Urge U.S. participation in the International Atomic Energy Agency.

In resolutions presented by Mrs. Wright W. Brooks, chairman of the UCW Christian World Relations Committee, the group resolved unanimously to urge new legislation to revise the Walter-McCarran Act and establish the status of parolee immigrants. The women noted the "new dimensions" of foreign economic aid, and urged support of a strong U.S. foreign economic aid policy. The board also voted unanimously to encourage ratification of the statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency, now before the Senate. This agency will "protect the interests of the United States and at the same time make available knowledge and materials" for wider use of atomic energy, it said. Positive use of atomic power will benefit mankind, it declared.

The church women's meeting was concluded by a public International Affairs Dinner. Featured speakers were: Paul G. Hoffman, U.S. delegate to the UN; and Mrs. Lorena Hahn, U.S. delegate to the UN Commission on the Status of Women. Members of the General Board of the National Council of Churches, gathering in Chicago for quarterly meeting, were guests at this dinner, sponsored jointly by UCW and the Chicago Federation of Women, with program planned by the Christian World Relations Department, Mrs. Esther Hymer, Director, with the cooperation of Mrs. Dorothy McLeod, General Director, United Church Women, and other staff officers.

Mrs. Hahn spoke of specific gains made by women in political, economic and social life around the world. Mr. Hoffman addressed his remarks to the need for better programs of foreign aid. He listed four "hard-boiled" reasons why the U.S. should extend this economic aid at this time: 1. "Our own dynamic economy" now makes us dependent on the outside world for critical raw materials. 2. "The underdeveloped countries offer the largest potential consumer's market in the world." 3. "Our political and strategic interest in these areas is of even more vital concern." 4. "If these new nations do become strong and independent...the Russian leaders may decide that further efforts to stir up internal strife and to subvert these governments are futile."

"That ponderous phrase - the development of the underdeveloped countries - comes to life only when translated into the needs and hopes of 900 million people," Mr. Hoffman told the guests. "Long-slumbering millions are awake, but they need help if they are to survive as free members of sovereign states."

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE: RECEIVES CHAMBERLAIN AWARD; AIDS EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS IN TURKEY

On April 29, Church World Service received an award in recognition of "service in the refugee settlement field". This was the first Chamberlain citation for such work. A scroll was presented by New York's Governor to Dr. R. Norris Wilson, Executive Director, CWS, and Roland Elliott, Director of Immigration, acting on behalf of CWS. The citation declared: "During 1956, Church World Service, now coordinating the activities of over 30 Protestant denominations, performed outstanding achievements, particularly during the Hungarian refugee emergency."

At approximately the same time, CWS was rushing aid to villages in Turkey, following one of the worst earthquakes experienced in that country. About $50,000 worth of aid, such as tents, food, and clothing, provided by American churches, was rushed to 17 villages; supplies included 90,000 pounds of U.S. surplus food, 30,000 pounds of clothing and 2,000 blankets; $5,000 cash was cabled by CWS for emergency uses to aid stricken people in the quake area. Some supplies on the way to aid Middle East refugees were immediately diverted to Turkey. This means these supplies must be replaced quickly to fulfill former commitments to needy refugees.

YOUNG PEOPLE OF U.C.Y.M. STUDY AT UN AND WASHINGTON FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS PROGRAM

Leaders among Christian youth from across the land spent a week in New York and Washington in March to learn first-hand about international relations, as part of a five-year program of responsibility in this field being developed in the United Christian Youth Movement, with an assist from the Department of International Affairs of the National Council of Churches. 32 young people from 23 states representing 13 denominations, working as a Preparatory Commission on International Affairs, invested a week of time studying programs at the United Nations and government in Washington.

They met with officials of the UN; the World Council of Churches, C.C.I.A. and different departments of the National Council of Churches; the State Department; ICA; Congress; and representatives of publications. Among these were: Frank Graham, UN representative in India and Pakistan; Ernest A. Gross, former Ambassador to the UN and Chairman of the Department of International Affairs, NCCCUSA; Dr. John C. Bennett, dean of the faculty at Union Theological Seminary; Dr. O. Frederick Nolde, Director of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs; Dr. Roswell P. Barnes, Associate General Secretary of the NCCCUSA; Edwin Wright, Dean of the Foreign Service Institute and Harry Seamans, liaison officer of the State Department; Senators Theodore F. Green (R.I.) Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, Ralph E. Flanders (Vt.), Clifford P. Case (N.J.), Hubert H. Humphrey (Minn.), Bourke B. Hickenlooper (Ia.); Representatives Marguerite Stitt Church (Ill.), Brooks Hays (Ark.), Francis E. Walter (Pa.), John M. Vorys (Ohio), Walter H. Judd, (Minn.); James Reston, Chief of the Washington Bureau of the New York Times.

The group also carried on extensive discussions of issues and planning for the next five years. On the basis of advance study and experiences during the week they considered such issues as: Foreign policy in general; the world context including revolutionary factors and questions of sovereignty and nationalism; the United Nations and its specialized agencies; nuclear energy; disarmament; economic foreign policy, including foreign aid and trade; immigration and refugee problems; human rights; universal military training and alternative service; the relevance of ecumenical relations to international relations. They are carrying on a follow-up program of reading, writing and planning, emphasizing in the first stage a statement of theological and moral considerations in international relations. They have already set forth a tentative outline of study and activities for the next five years for a program of responsibility for Christian youth in world affairs.

BOOKLET: "DECISIONS...1957" deals with vital aspects of U.S. foreign policy; some needed light is shed on questions such as "How Should U.S. Compete with Russia?", "What U.S. Stakes in the Middle East?", "U.S.--For or Against 'Colonialism'?" and "How Much Trade--How Much Aid?". The booklet is of value as an introduction to these problems and in presenting some basic material on them. Authors are outstanding in their fields; the writing is clear, concise and cogent. 35¢, Headline Series #121, Foreign Policy Association, Inc., 345 East 46th Street, New York 17, N.Y.

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